

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the present amendment prior to examination of the above-referenced application. Applicant has amended the specification in accordance with U.S. practice. In addition, Applicant has submitted substitute sheets 31, 31/1, and 31/2 to replace sheet 31 of the English translation of the original application. The substitute sheets incorporate the amendments to the claims made under PCT Article 34 into the original listing of claims. The claims have been further amended in the Listing of Claims enclosed to eliminate a multiple dependency.

In view of the foregoing, examination of the present application on the merits is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy Kingsbury Dowd  
Registration No.: 52,830  
Attorney for Applicant

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP  
6900 Jericho Turnpike  
Syosset, New York 11791  
(516) 822-3550

BKD:tt

208758\_1